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I, JONNE YABSLEY, TEAM LEADER EXAMINATION SUPPORT AND SALES hereby certify that annexed is a true copy of the Provisional specification in connection with Application No. 2002951524 for a patent by CANDLE CO PTY LTD as filed on 20 September 2002.

WITNESS my hand this
Eighth day of October 2003

JONNE YABSLEY
TEAM LEADER EXAMINATION
SUPPORT AND SALES

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A GREETING CARD

This invention relates to a greeting card.

5 This invention has particular, but not exclusive application to a greeting card that houses a candle, and for illustrative purposes reference will be made to said application. However, it will be understood that this invention is not limited to housing candles and that it also applies to greeting cards that may be used to house other articles, including gifts such as a cigar.

10 Greeting cards are widely known and are often used as a means of expressing one's feelings for another person. With the above in mind, it is possible to purchase greeting cards on which there are printed messages appropriate to a particular occasion, be it a birthday, wedding, or the death of a close friend, by way of
15 example. There are also greeting cards that contain no message at all which often lend themselves to a variety of uses limited only by the relevance, if any, of any images they may carry.

Most greeting cards are constructed from a single sheet of paper or card board which may be folded, usually along a line of
20 symmetry, so as to create a hinge that connects two opposing leaves, often referred to as the front and back covers respectively, and wherein occasionally there may be provided an insert, generally in the form of a very thin grade of paper, located between said covers.

25 Some greeting cards include a badge attached thereto. For example, cards that celebrate a child's birthday, may include a badge on which there is printed the child's age, which is attached to an outer face of the front cover. Or an inner face of the back cover, and in the case of the latter, there may be
30 an aperture cut in the front cover through which the badge extends. Other greeting cards may include a small gift attached thereto, such as a baby's comb.

Candles form an integral part of many religious ceremonies.

They are often used to symbolise, light, hope and/or life itself. For example, worshippers are encouraged to place lighted candles on church alters in memory of persons dear to them who have passed away.

5 Persons partaking in religious ceremonies are often given before the commencement of the service a sheet of paper or a small booklet on which their is printed the religious service, including any responses that they will be called upon to make. They may also be given a candle which they will be asked to light
10 during the ceremony.

In order to minimise administrative duties prior to the commencement of religious ceremonies, it may be desirous that worshippers are given selected information regarding the service printed on a card, such as a card comprising a singled leaf or
15 two leaves which themselves may in addition contain an insert, to which there is attached a candle. It would also appear appropriate that greeting cards that may be given in recognition of a particular event which may be observed by a religious ritual involving the lighting of a candle, might be accompanied by a
20 candle that is attached thereto. To the inventor's knowledge, no such card currently exists.

Candles can be quite fragile, particularly if dropped, and while a wick that extends the length of a candle may prevent the disassociation of adjacent fractured wax components, the relative
25 movement of adjacent parts can be dangerous when the candle is lit. It is therefore felt that the attachment of a candle to an outer face of the front cover of a greeting card would not adequately protect the candle from damage. Nor would the attachment of the candle to the outer face of the front cover
30 necessarily aid in the stacking of like cards either one on top of the other for packaging purposes, or one behind he other, for display purposes.

Depending upon the method used to attach the candle to the

outer face of the front cover, the candle may be easily separated from the card during handling and wherein this may lead to the possible loss and/or damage of the candle when displayed in retail outlets. In addition, separation of the candle from the card may damage any artwork displayed on the front cover thereby reducing the card's appeal on sentimental and/or aesthetic grounds.

It is also common when giving gifts to include a greeting card. Often the gift is wrapped in pretty paper and the card is attached to the paper using a suitable adhesive tape. Finding a suitable card and wrapping paper that match can sometimes be a problem. Similarly, wrapping the gift takes time, and to some, may seem a wasted effort, as the wrapping paper is often quickly discarded and forgotten by the recipient of the gift. It would appear that a greeting card which may also be used to wrap a small gift would be advantageous.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a greeting card that obviates at least some of the disadvantages of the prior art and which will be reliable and efficient in use. Other objects and advantages will hereinafter become apparent.

With the forgoing in view, this invention in one aspect relates to a greeting card that is capable of retaining an article there within and which, together with said article, is intended to be given by the owner of same to someone else as a unitary item, said article being later separable from said greeting card, said greeting card including:

a first leaf;

a second leaf;

article retaining means having a mouth through which the article be retained may pass and a cavity located behind said mouth that is adapted to receive the article, said article retaining means being located intermediate and connected to both said first leaf and said second leaf between a closed position,

whereby said first leaf is capable of hinge like movement relative to said second leaf between a closed position, wherein the two leaves overly one another in a manner that at least partially closes said mouth, and an open position, wherein the two leaves are splayed apart thereby opening said mouth and enabling the removal of the article from said cavity if so desired. To assist with the retention of the article by the article retaining means, a suitable adhesive and/or a strip of a suitable adhesive tape may be used to releasably attach the article to a wall of the article retaining means surrounding the cavity.

The two leaves and the article retaining means are preferably of unitary construction. For example, the two leaves and the article retaining means may be constructed from a single piece of paper, cardboard or various plastics materials. However, it will also be appreciated that the two leaves and the article retaining means may be constructed separately and from different materials of so desired.

The article retaining means preferably includes two opposing stiff jaw like portions that are hingedly connected together along a common edge, seam, web or join, and wherein the free edge portions of the two jaws either abut or are separated by a small gap or mouth through which the article to be retained may selectively pass through. The space enclosed by the jaws defined a cavity that in use shall receive an article. Whether the article conforms to the shape of the cavity depends upon the external shape of the article, which need not necessarily have a generally circular transverse cross-section, and the internal profile of the two jaws. For example, each jaw may include two or more angled faces which may resemble and function like teeth.

The hinge like connection joining the two jaws may resemble a spring which may be adapted to urge the aforementioned free edge portions together and wherein, in some embodiments, this

spring like force may enable the jaws to grip the article that is located there between, possibly obviating the need for adhesives and/or adhesive tape to hold the article in place.

5 In a preferred embodiment, the article retaining means comprises a thin walled piece of moulded cardboard having a generally "C" shaped transverse cross-section. The stiff cardboard is permitted to flex along an axis of symmetry that is located midway between two arcuate jaw like portions.

10 The two leaves may take any suitable shape, including a variety of both regular and irregular shapes. For example, the leaves may be generally square or rectangular. Alternatively, the shape of the leaves may resemble the silhouette of a common object, building, animal, human being or part thereof.

15 The leaves are each preferably connected to a respective one of the aforesaid free edge portions of the two jaws. In one embodiment, the connection may be a flexible connection. This may be produced in a variety of ways, such as by lightly scoring or folding the material so as to create a fold line. However, it is preferred that the connection is rigid connection.

20 The article may include generally cylindrically shaped objects, such as candles, cigars, pencils, as well as various sexual aids and massage tools. Alternatively the article may include a generally cylindrically shaped container that may be used to house any number and variety of objects that themselves
25 may be difficult or impossible to be satisfactorily retained by the article retaining means.

30 In another aspect, this invention relates to a greeting card that is capable of retaining an article there within and which, together with said article, is intended to be given by the owner of same to someone else as a unitary item, said article being later separable from said greeting card, said greeting card including:

a first leaf;

a second leaf;

article retaining means located intermediate and connected to both said first leaf and said second leaf whereby said first leaf is capable of hinge like movement relative to said second leaf.

In order that this invention may be more easily understood and put into practical application, reference will now be made to the following drawings:

Figure 1 shows a pictorial view of a greeting card constructed in accordance with the present invention, and Figure 2 shows another pictorial view of the greeting card shown in figure 1.

Figure 1 and 2 show a greeting card 10, constructed from a sheet of paper card, that is adapted to hold a candle 11.

The card 10 includes a first leaf or front cover 12, and a second leaf or back cover 13.

The two leaves 12 and 13 are substantially rectangular in shape and are interconnected by an intermediate article retaining means 14.

The article retaining means 14 has a generally "C" shaped transverse cross-section comprising two opposing stiff, arcuate, jaws 15 that are interconnected along a common edge by a flexible web like portion 16 that functions like a spring urging the free edge portions 17 of the two jaws together.

The two leaves 12 and 13 are each rigidly connected to a respective free edge portion 17, as shown.

The greeting card 10 also includes an insert 18 comprising a thin sheet of paper that has been affixed to the internal faces 19 and 20 of the leaves 12 and 13 respectively. A message or greeting 22 may be written on the insert.

In use, the splaying apart of the two leaves 12 and 13, as shown in figure 2, will cause the web 16 to flex in the direction

of arrows 23 thereby opening the mouth, defined by the opposing free edge portions 17, wide enough to allow an article, such as a candle 11, to pass there through. When the external force holding the splayed leaves 12 and 13 apart is removed, the spring like web 16 urges the two leaves 12 and 13 together, as shown in figure 1, and the two opposing jaws 15 close about the candle.

Rather than rely solely on the jaws 15 to hold the candle 11 in place, a small dab of a suitable non-permanent adhesive, not shown, is used to affix the candle to the web 16.

It will be appreciated that the card 10 and the candle 11 may be given as a gift, and whereas the candle may be used as part of a religious ceremony, the card and the message written inside on the insert may be retained as a keepsake if so desired.

It will also be appreciated that the cardboard that surrounds the candle offers protection for the candle against damage either while in transit or when on display and prevents the candle from being accidentally separated from the card.

It will also be appreciated that the above example is given as an illustration only of the present invention and that all such modifications and variations thereto as would be apparent to persons skilled in the art are deemed to fall within the broad scope and ambit of this invention as herein before described.

Dated this 20th Day of September 2002

CANDLE CO. PTY LTD

By their Patent Attorney

AHEARN FOX

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(Ian R. Tannahill)

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